

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 1 and 2 show an embodiment of the present invention with a coated drug core 1 that is coated with coating [2]. This coating [2] is [preferably] preferably composed of an inner impermeable coating layer 9 adjacent the drug core 1 and an outer permeable polymer coating layer 2 on the exterior of the device. The device includes a suture tab 3. The permeable polymer coating layer 2 and suture tab [preferably] preferably appear as an integral single unit made of the same material.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

Alternatively, another aspect of the present invention entails a sustained release drug delivery device comprising:

1) a coated drug core comprising an inner core comprising at least one agent effective in obtaining a diagnostic effect or effective in obtaining a desired local, or systemic physiological or pharmacological effect and a permeable polymer coating layer, the polymer being permeable to the passage of said agent, wherein the permeable polymer coating layer covers at least a portion of the inner core;

2) an impermeable coating layer impermeable to the passage of said agent that surrounds only a portion of said coated drug core; and

3) a suture tab adhered to and extending from said drug delivery device that is used during surgery to adhere said device to the body of a mammalian organism:

wherein the permeable polymer coating layer covering at least a portion of the inner core in [1)] is of a similar polymer material as said suture tab [3)] and both polymer coating layer and suture tab have been cured at the same time and wherein said inner core is completely covered by a combination of permeable polymer coating layer, impermeable coating layer, and suture tab such that the agent is able to diffuse out of the inner core through the permeable polymer coating layer or permeable suture tab.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The sustained drug delivery device according to the above alternate aspect of the present invention alternatively can have said impermeable coating layer [of 2)] essentially covering the entire drug core [of 1)]. In this aspect at least one passageway must then be made through said impermeable layer allowing passage of said agent, out of said inner core, through said polymer coating layer, and out of said passageway.